

## LGBT Jewish Weddings in a Day

Join Rabbi Camille Shira Angel on Sunday, February 10, from 11 am to 3 pm at CSZ for "LGBT Jewish Weddings in a Day." Are you thinking about getting married? Wondering whether you can have a Jewish wedding? We will study the traditional elements of a Jewish wedding and explore how to infuse this lifecycle event with an LGBT Jewish sensibility. We will explore a variety of LGBT Jewish wedding styles and items, including ritual elements, creative ketubot, fashion options and more. We will also discuss how to deal with difficult family issues, interfaith concerns and other challenges. This event is co-sponsored with Lehrhaus Judaica and is free for CSZ members. Cost for Lehrhaus members is \$25, \$30 for general public. RSVP to Lehrhaus Judaica (510/845-6420).

## Freedom to Marry Day

CSZ will be celebrating National Freedom to Marry Day on Sunday, February 10. Following Rabbi Camille Shira Angel's class, "LGBT Weddings in a Day," you and your partner are invited to register with the State of California as domestic partners. Take advantage of newly granted statewide recognition of same-sex relationships! Beginning at 3 pm, we will have notaries available to certify domestic partnership forms. Following the paperwork, we will have a ritual which honors our commitments and our right to make them. Please be sure to bring proper photo identification in order for the notary to process your paperwork. For more information, please phone the CSZ office (415/861-6932).

## CSZ's Beit Midrash Now Forming

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is forming a Beit Midrash, a study group that relies primarily on chevruta study: study with a friend. We plan to meet monthly to share experiences, hear special guest speakers and learn together in a formal setting. If you are interested in participating in Beit Midrash, please contact Melanie in the CSZ programming office (415/861-6932 or [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)).

## Purim 5762: Year of the Hamantashen

Monday, February 25

**Megillah Reading and Children's Costume Contest at 6 pm**  
**Purim Carnival for Adults to follow**

Have you ever won a hamantashen-eating contest? Ever played "Pin the Hamantashen on Haman?" Don't miss your chance this Purim! Join us for a family megillah reading at 6 pm on Monday, February 25 at CSZ, followed by a "spirited" Purim carnival for adults. Come in costume, as there will be a costume contest for children and a later one for adults. This is a fabulous chance to nosh and shmooze with friends, family and other CSZers, all in the spirit of Purim. The carnival will feature zany and fun booths, games and hamantashen. Be fierce, be fabulous, be in costume and most important, be at CSZ for this event! To volunteer, please contact Melanie in the programming office (415/861-6932 or [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)). Also, be sure to bring your children to the Kids' Purim Carnival on Saturday, February 23 from 12:15 to 1:30 pm.



## Milk and Honey - Practical and Spiritual Preparation for Becoming a Parent

February 6 - 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Are you on the journey to parenthood and wondering how to make this a Jewish journey? Whether you are anticipating your due date, beginning the insemination process, starting to think about the role of the sperm bank in your life, or wondering when to go off the pill, this workshop is for you. Sarah Fenner, childbirth educator and doula, will be presenting information on sanctifying the process from insemination to birth, Jewish pregnancy superstitions and customs, naming, and introducing Jewish ritual to your children from the beginning. This promises to be a wonderful opportunity to enrich your experience of coming to parenting, whether this is your first child or your fourth. Cost is \$18 per family. A light dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to Sue Bojdak, Director of Family and Children's Education (415/861-6932 x302) by Monday, February 4. This program is brought to you in partnership with the Bureau of Jewish Education.

(Note: We look forward to offering a similar program in the future to families bringing children into their lives through adoption.)



## — Annual Congregational Seder —

**March 28, 6:30 pm**

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav holds a community seder each year on the second night of Pesach. We will be celebrating this holiday of our liberation on Thursday, March 28 at the Fort Mason Officers' Club. The cost this year is \$36 for adult CSZ members, \$18 for children and \$48 for non-CSZ members. One of the mitzvot incumbent upon every Jew is to attend a seder each year. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav offers subsidies to those who are unable to afford the full cost. Opportunities are available to donate towards those subsidies as well. Please be certain to make your reservations for this popular event by returning the enclosed form to the CSZ office no later than March 8.

Each year, a few wonderful volunteers help to make the holiday extra special by putting their food processors to work and wowing us all with delicious varieties of charoset. If you would like to be a part of this effort, or can otherwise help out by arriving early on the twenty-eighth and helping to set up the tables, we'd love to have your efforts and your energy.

Please contact our Administrator, Lea Salem, (lsalem@shaarzahav.org or 415/861-6932 x308) in order to help out with Pesach this year or if you have any questions.

## Music in the Mishkan Celebrates Eastern European Masterpieces

Music in the Mishkan wraps up its third season at CSZ with the return of the acclaimed Montclair Trio in a concert of Eastern European string trios on Sunday, March 3 at 4 pm. The program opens with the passionate and angst-ridden *Passacaglia and Fugue* by the Jewish Czech composer Hans Krasa. Krasa spent the last few years of his life at Terezin concentration camp, contributing to its rich cultural legacy, until he was murdered by the Nazis at age 45. Also included on the program are Hungarian composer Ernst von Dohnanyi's plucky *Serenade for String Trio* and Mozart's delicious *Divertimento in E flat Major*.

The Montclair Trio, back again by popular demand after last season's Music in the Mishkan opening concert, is made up of violinist and CSZ member Randy Weiss and two of his San Jose Symphony colleagues: Assistant Principal Violist Patricia Whaley and Assistant Principal Cellist Cheryl Fippen. Randy promises a fun-filled and melodious afternoon and welcomes the involvement of The Holocaust Center of Northern California, which is sponsoring this year's program along with CSZ.

Tickets are available in advance or at the door. Everyone is invited to nosh and schmooze with the musicians at the reception following the concert. For more information, contact the office (415/861-6932).

## New from CSZ's Israel Committee

### Programming

Many of you have asked for additional social/cultural programming related to Israel. We're very pleased to have teamed up with the Jewish Community Center and the Israel Center to provide the following programs. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending the following upcoming Israel programming events at CSZ:

**Sunday February 3, 7 pm**  
**Professor Rami Friedman**

Professor Friedman is the head of the Jerusalem Institute of Israel Studies, an independent Israeli think tank devoted to policy research in areas of Jerusalem, peace, social affairs, ecology and infrastructure.

**Sunday March 10, 7 pm**  
**Gil-Ad Harish**

Author and emerging leader of volunteerism and philanthropy, Mr. Harish spearheaded a number of community initiatives. He speaks about the need for reform in Israeli establishment and society.

**Sunday April 7, 7 pm**  
**Motti Lerner**

A playwright and director, Mr. Lerner has stirred up controversy time and again by boldly taking on core issues of Israeli identity. He speaks about writing plays and films inspired by current and historical affairs.

Also, on **Thursday, April 18, 7 pm** (the day following Yom Ha'atzmaut), the Israeli Consul General Yossi Amrani will dialogue with us.

### Travel

Two wonderful opportunities to travel to Israel with CSZ'niks are in the works:

**July 4-7**

The 17th Annual World Conference of LGBT Jews, with gay pride events beginning June 27. Contact Michael Sarid (415/621-0738 or msarid@earthlink.net) for further information.

CSZ's third congregational trip to Israel: You tell us - spring, summer or winter of 2003? Rabbi Angel will lead the journey. Please provide your preference as to travel time. We want to find the time that works best for our interested members. Please contact Ron Lezell with your thoughts (415/626-5748 or rlezell@aol.com).

### Join Us

The Israel Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at CSZ at 6:30 pm. Please join us.



## Fairness



Lisa Katz

"Mama, it's not fair" is a common refrain heard around my house. What is fair often depends on where you sit. Equity and fairness have long been cherished values of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. But what do these values mean?

Last June, at our congregational meeting, we passed a new dues structure that was implemented in July 2001. This new structure reduced the dues percentage for lower income families and also contained a dues cap so that no member is required to pay dues of more than \$3,600 per year. This was an attempt to make our dues structure more fair, by making synagogue membership more affordable for those least able to pay, but also by setting an upper limit as to what could be required for membership. Some people viewed the dues cap as unfair, because it requires a lower percentage of income from those members with the greatest ability to pay. Rather than the flat fee membership dues that some congregations utilize, our congregation continues to be committed to a system that ties membership dues to members' income. But we have learned that equity and fairness can sometimes be complex issues, and reasonable people can disagree.

At that same meeting, we also passed a new building assessment structure. Because it costs substantially more money to operate our new synagogue building than it did to keep up the old Danvers Street building, the building assessment needed to rise. Rather than raising the flat fee structure of our previous building assessment, the congregation passed a sliding scale building assessment. Issues of fairness and equity were central to this congregational decision as well.

You will shortly be receiving in the mail your third quarter dues statement, which will include your 2002 building assessment. For the first time, this building assessment will be 10% of your dues pledge. For some this will be a significant increase, so I wanted to remind you of

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## Capital Campaign to Resume this Spring —

*by Arthur Slepian, CSZ Vice President*

This spring, the Fundraising Committee will resume the important undertaking of raising the capital needed to support our wonderful Mishkan Dolores home. We have set a goal to raise at least \$400,000 in pledges during the coming year.

The first phase of this campaign was conducted from 1996 to 1998. During that time, more than 400 member households, along with relatives of members and friends of Sha'ar Zahav, pledged more than \$1.7 million for the purchase and renovation of our new home. CSZ members looked at an empty building and a set of blueprints and they opened their hearts and their wallets in remarkable fashion.

This was by far the largest fundraising effort our congregation has ever undertaken. The members who funded the initial campaign knew that the money they raised would not be sufficient by itself to pay back the necessary debt that was incurred, or to fund all the future improvements to the building that would be needed. But they moved forward, acting with a sense of faith, perhaps a leap of faith. Faith that if the vision of Mishkan Dolores were realized, there would be future members who, sharing the dream, would come forward to share the burden. We could say, I think, that they acted in the spirit of Pirkei Avot, which teaches us: "It is not upon you to finish the task, nor are you free not to begin." The task was begun, with great commitment and dedication, and now it is up to us to continue. There are loans to be repaid, there is more work to be done.

Beginning this spring, under the leadership of our member Deborah Udin, the Mishkan Dolores campaign will resume. We will be asking all of our members who have not yet pledged, whether you have been a member for just a year or for ten years, to make a pledge now. When

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## Pre-Shabbat Welcome Dinner

**February 15 at 6:15 pm**

### Special Edition: L'dor V'dor: From Generation to Generation

On February 15, please join the Keshet (Connections) and New Member Committees, along with Rabbi Camille Shira Angel, as we welcome the new members of our congregation. In keeping with the Presidents' Day holiday, we will also be honoring past presidents of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. All current and prospective members are encouraged to join us to break bread, mingle with new congregants and share stories of our heritage. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow members of the synagogue in a relaxed and haimish environment.

The cost of the event is \$15 for adults, \$5 for children under 13 (no one turned away for lack of funds). As a special welcome to new members (those who joined after December 15), there will be no charge to attend.

Because we are having the meal catered in our oneg room, RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL AND SEATING IS LIMITED. Priority is given to new member households. Please RSVP no later than February 11 to the CSZ office (415/861-6932; office@shaarzahav.org).

We look forward to having you join us!



At this point in world history, we may be tired of hearing about selfish, deceptive, politically ambitious men. Yet Purim presents us with another example: Mordechai. He is not only Queen Esther's cousin, guardian, mentor and possibly betrothed; he is a complex political being, with an instructive story.

Politics institutionalize conflict. Harvard Professor Marjorie Garber defines politics as "the art of creating oppositions, in order to make a space and constituency for change or for conservation." Mordechai knows how to create a constituency and an opposition, thus advancing himself.

According to Torah scholar Nitzhia Shaked, Mordechai begins selfishly. As a powerless outsider, Mordechai needs a connection with someone at court, to permit his daily presence at "the king's gate." Accordingly, he subjects Esther, the young woman he should protect, to the risk of life imprisonment as a royal concubine.

While Esther undergoes a year of doubtful prospects, shut up in the palace and isolated from any outside Jewish community, Mordechai waits for an opportunity to make his mark at court. Finally he hears two courtiers plotting against the king and denounces them. His later behavior makes it clear how confidently he now expects his career to take off. Instead, in the very first line of the very next chapter, Haman becomes powerful.

Mordechai's reaction shows bitterness at his dashed expectations, as well as a talent for manipulating events to call attention to himself. When the new prime minister passes by, and everyone else does him the common courtesy of bowing, Mordechai remains visibly and obtrusively standing.

This is street theater, not Jewish law. Jewish law states that one shows ordinary respect to any public official or king who doesn't claim also to be a god. Mordechai, however, when chal-

lenged, makes the curious assertion that he, because he is a Jew, can't bow to Haman. Perhaps this is shorthand for a series of connections: Mordechai saved the king's life, but wasn't promoted, which he blames on anti-Semitism; he isn't about to acknowledge Haman, who benefited unfairly at his expense. By invoking his people, Mordechai makes his issue theirs, and himself their only spokesman.

Mordechai succeeds in bringing an invisible minority to public attention. However, attention doesn't always translate into power. Mordechai's inexperience causes him to misjudge badly his context and his adversary. Nitzhia Shaked points out that Haman may never previously have taken any note of Jews. Now, taking Mordechai at his word, Haman decides that the Jews are potential trouble for the crown, thus easy pickings for him. In response to Mordechai, he becomes the Jews' worst enemy.

Mordechai's life is a disaster. Not only has he failed to advance himself, he has brought mortal danger on countless people. He is morally at fault, at risk of his life as a Jew, and, should word spread in the Jewish community, at risk from his own people as well. A reasonable politician might now sneak out of the capitol and hide himself in a rural region of one of the king's 127 provinces.

Mordechai, however, for the first time, shows signs of taking responsibility. He attempts to repair the disaster he has caused, using his gift for po-

litical theater. He wails beneath Esther's window in sackcloth and ashes, displaying his people's grief and fear; however, the same ritual also symbolizes penitence.

It is only after Mordechai's teshuvah, only after his realization that his people's safety is worth more than his political career, that his career begins to prosper. During Esther's three-day fast in preparation for approaching the king, Mordechai is her messenger to the community. By establishing himself as a real leader, he becomes more than a climber. The clueless king finally thinks of rewarding his long-ignored service. With Haman's fall, he becomes the new prime minister and spends the rest of his life working for the public good.

Mordechai and Esther both show a talent for manipulating the king, their enemy, and public opinion, so that their people survive and prosper. They illustrate the hard truth that the most effective, political leaders are seldom the most virtuous people.

Yet political leaders must be somewhat virtuous to be of any use to those they lead. This is the megillah's message: Powerless groups need political skill to survive, but to be effective the political skill must be closely bound to a sense of communal responsibility.

We may or may not find that sense of responsibility in any given would-be leader. Learning to seek and recognize it is vital not only to social change but to survival itself.

### **Update and Orientation Brunch for Service Greeters**

On Friday evenings and Saturday mornings, Sha'ar Zahav relies on volunteers to provide a safe and welcoming passage from our street door to the sanctuary. Besides being a mitzvah, greeting is an easy way to get involved. And, we must note that participation in the CSZ greeter gang is a great way to meet boys/girls.

Want to learn more? Join seasoned members and members of the Va'ad on March 10 at 10 am for bagels, coffee, introductions and orientation.

Please call Marianne Balin to RSVP (510/338-3890).



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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward* as part of their membership. Nonmembers can receive a *Forward* subscription for \$36/year.

Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

#### Members of the Newsletter Committee

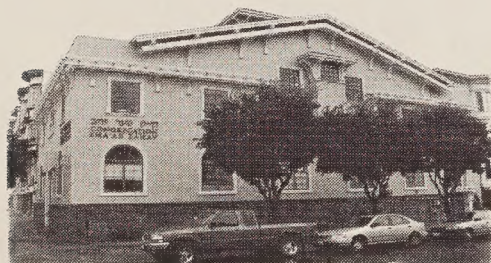
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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: Attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

February 2002, Volume 25, Issue 6.



## CSZ Receives Grant for Security Upgrades

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav now has enhanced exterior lighting at our entrance. This new lighting makes approaching the building at night both safer and more welcoming. The lighting and other security improvements, including the 16th Street gate, an improved alarm system and closed circuit video were made possible by a generous grant from the San Francisco Federation's Endowment Fund and the Koret Foundation.

The congregation's request was supported by the Jewish Community Relations Council's Security Taskforce, which made recommendations and site visits to help us provide a safer environment for our members, staff and guests. The JCRC continues to work with CSZ and the entire Jewish community on issues of safety and security. Their work is financially supported by our Federation, which is dedicated to providing opportunities for partnerships with all synagogues.

## Dreaming of Property

Buying your first home? • Buying commercial or investment property?  
Buying a second vacation home? • Refinancing residential or commercial property?

Irene  
Ogus



Step 1

Arrange Financing  
Pacific Guarantee Mortgage  
415.441.5050 work • 415.441.5047 fax

Deborah  
Udin



Step 2

Find the right property for you.  
Zephyr Real Estate  
415.552.9500 ext. 122



Step 3

Pick up your keys!

Percentage of all commissions to CSZ

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Call David Gellman  
415-621-5600



# February 2002-Shevat/Adar 5762

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
<p>Please note that dates, times and locations sometimes get changed after the <i>Forward</i> is published. Call the office if you need updated information.</p>				MARCH DEADLINE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4			
				ARTICLES		ADVERTISEMENTS	
				Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file via email to: <a href="mailto:kschiller@igc.org">kschiller@igc.org</a> . <i>No late submissions will be accepted.</i>		To place a display ad, contact: <a href="mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net">froslyn@earthlink.net</a> .	
3	21 Shevat	4	22 Shevat	5	23 Shevat	6	
• 4 pm - Healing Service • 7 pm - Israel Speaker Series: Prof. Rami Friedman		• 5 pm - JGF Deadline		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 7-9 pm - Poetry, Prose and Midrash		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 6:30-8:30 pm - Milk & Honey • 7 pm - JGF Editing • 7-8:30 pm - Bereavement Group • 7:30-9 pm - Adult B'nai Mitzvah	
10	28 Shevat	11	29 Shevat	12	30 Shevat	13	Rosh Chodesh
• 11-3 pm - LGBT Jewish Weddings • 3 pm - Freedom to Marry Program • 6 pm - JGF Layout		• 7 pm - Fundraising Committee		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 7-9 pm - Poetry, Prose and Midrash		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 6 pm - Building and Meeting • 7-8:30 pm - Bereavement Group • 7:30-9 pm - Adult B'nai Mitzvah	
17	5 Adar	18	President's Day 6 Adar	19	7 Adar	20	
		OFFICE CLOSED		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 7-9 pm - Poetry, Prose and Midrash		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 7-8:30 pm - Bereavement Group • 7:30-9 pm - Adult B'nai Mitzvah	
24	12 Adar	25	13 Adar	26	Purim 14 Adar	27	
Jewish Community Federation Super Sunday		• 6 pm - Purim Service and Celebration		NO East Bay Kadimah • 7-9 pm - Poetry, Prose and Midrash		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 7:30-9 pm - Adult B'nai Mitzvah	

## Please Be in Touch With Me

I am eager to be in touch with all members of the CSZ family whenever there are occasions of joy or sadness in your lives. When there is a death in the family, please call me as soon as possible. We very much want to be there with you at a time of grief.

*Rabbi Camille Shira Angel*

## East Bay Services

**Friday, February 15, 7:15 pm**

Vegetarian potluck  
candle lighting and zemirot

Susan Tubbesing and Sarah Nathe  
3433 Brunell Drive, Oakland

510/482-3740



THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SHABBAT	
AT 5 PM T I S I N G Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209) Place a classified ad, call the office.		1 19 Shevat	2 Shabbat Yitro (Exodus 18:1-20:23) 20 Shevat		
		• 5:13 pm - Candle Lighting • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Sarita Groisser and Nathan Robinson	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 9:40 am - Camps Swig and Newman Presentation • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Randy Weiss and Alan Gordon • 10:15 am - Transgender Education for Parents		
24 Shevat	7 25 Shevat	8 26 Shevat	9 Shabbat Mishpatim (Exodus 21:1-24:18, 30:11-16) 27 Shevat		
y Program t Support itzvah class	• 7 pm - Beit Midrash	• 5:21 pm - Candle Lighting • 6 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Family Dinner • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Jonathan Funk	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Richard Sinkoff		
1 Adar	14 2 Adar	15 3 Adar	16 Shabbat Terumah (Exodus 25:1-27:19) 4 Adar		
ounds pport vah Class	• 6:30 pm - Va'ad Meeting	• 5:29 pm - Candle Lighting • 6:15 pm - Pre-Shabbat Welcome Dinner • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel and Marsha Attie <div>NEW MEMBER WELCOME</div>	• 9 am - Torah Study NO Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Paul Cohen		
ar	21 9 Adar	22 10 Adar	23 Shabbat Tetzaveh (Exodus 27:20-30:10) 11 Adar		
pport vah Class	• 6:30 pm - Israel Committee • 7 pm - Israel-Palestine Dialogue	• 5:36 pm - Candle Lighting • 6 pm - Social Action Committee: Home for the Aged • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers and Randy Weiss	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services • 10 am - Baby Havurah • 11:45 am - Purim Tot Shabbat • 12:15 pm - Kids' Purim Carnival		
15 Adar	28 16 Adar	1 17 Adar	2 18 Adar		
vah Class	• 6:30 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting	• 5:45 pm - Candle Lighting • 6 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Family Dinner • 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel	• 9 am - Torah Study • 9:30 am - Kadimah • 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Angel		



## CSZ Members Raise Money to Fight AIDS

CSZ members Marc Wernick, Mark Gershman, James Carlson, Ed Blaik and Howard Steiermann trained for six months to run as part of the National AIDS Marathon in Honolulu in December. All five finished the full 26.2 mile run. Together these members raised almost \$45,000 to fight the disease. The Sha'ar Zahav community played an important role in both the fundraising and the emotional support that made the marathon such a success. Thanks go out to everyone from the runners.





# Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah

Children and Family Corner



## PURIM CARNIVAL

**Saturday, February 23**  
12:15 to 1:30 pm

Throw beanbags at Haman. Dress up as Esther. And feast on your favorite hamantashen. Bring the whole family for games, face painting and food at the annual Purim Carnival. Featuring booths created by Kadimah students as well as the very funny, very talented Rabbi Angel and her merry madrichim in a Purimshpiel to be remembered. Don't miss this entertaining family fun for all. Free to members. \$10 per family for non-members. Please make payments to the CSZ office in advance of the event.

## Megillah Reading and Kids' Costume Contest

**Monday, February 25 - 6 pm**

Grab a grogger and come out for the annual reading of Megillat Esther. Treat the family to this raucous telling of the triumphant tale of Esther and her people. Bring your child queens, kings and villains for the fabulous mid-Megillah costume contest.

**For more information about any of these programs, or to RSVP, contact:**  
Sue Bojdak at 415/861-6932 ext. 302, or [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org)

## Open Hand for the Holidays: CSZ and JFCS Members Participate in a Heartwarming Mitzvah

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, more than 100 volunteers from Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and Jewish Family and Children's Services volunteered at Project Open Hand. For more than 10 years we have partnered with JFCS and taken over most of the volunteer slots during the Christmas holidays. Our volunteers allow Project Open Hand's regular meal preparation and delivery volunteers to

take a much-needed break.

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## Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Service

**Friday, February 8, 6 pm**

Join us for our monthly family celebration of Shabbat with Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz, and Educator Lom Friedman. Special guests this month will be Kitah Gimel and their families. All children of all ages are welcome. There will be age-specific children's programming for both older and younger children. We will eat and sing and pray and welcome Shabbat. Reservations are necessary. Cost for members is \$3 for children, \$5 for adults; for non-members, the cost is \$5 for children and \$10 for adults. Please RSVP by February 6.

## Purim Tot Shabbat

**Saturday, February 23**  
11:45 am [SPECIAL TIME]

Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz will be leading a special Tot Purim celebration complete with Purim puppet show, just before the wonderfully fantastic family Purim Carnival. Please bring children aged 2-5 to sing, play and celebrate.

## Camps Swig and Newman Special Presentation

**Saturday, February 2 - 9:40 to 10 am**

Thinking about Jewish camp for the summer? Your questions will be answered here after Opening T'fillah by the friendly folks at Bay Area UAHC Camps Swig and Newman. This special presentation will happen only once - don't miss it! Both parents and kids are encouraged to attend.

## Transgender Education for Parents

**Saturday, February 2 - 10:15 - Noon**

What does it mean for someone to be transgendered and how do I talk with my kids about it? As Kadimah expands its transgender education, we invite parents to join us in the conversation. Please spend your Saturday morning with us as we learn about transgender issues from trans members and with the help and support of Jewish Family and Children's Services' LGBT outreach program. We look forward to supporting families in better understanding and embracing this important segment of our community. This is a free workshop.

## Baby Havurah and Hamantashen

**Saturday, February 23**  
10 am [SPECIAL TIME]

Introduce your baby to Purim at this month's Baby Havurah. Dress your baby up in a funny hat or costume and join us for hamantashen, songs and celebration. Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz will get those 24-month and unders contemplating good and evil or at least having a great time in the spirit of the holiday.



## Missing in Action!

Do you have a pile of CSZ library books you've been meaning to return? Perhaps a siddur that you "borrowed" for a project six months ago which is now not available to worshippers attending services? Chairs that you arranged to use for your last Passover seder? Is the CSZ banner in the trunk of your car? Well, we are happy that you have had the use of them and would now like to make them available to others. Therefore, CSZ is declaring official amnesty as well as offering special prayers for the safe and speedy return of all of these items.

### New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

- Kevin Stein, Helen Bruno, Cohen Bruno Stein and Serena Iris Stein
- Miriam Trentman and Robert Morelli
- Alan Karras
- Julie Hansen
- Jason Baskin
- Rick and Zack Shelton
- Jeremy Saz
- Andrew Fletcher
- Tamara Abrams and Carol Barnett

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

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**contribution to our synagogue.**

## Dec Va'ad Minutes

Ami Zusman delivered the d'var Torah on Parashat Miketz. She stated that Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams shows the importance of speaking truth to power, even about bad news. She added that the parashah teaches us to plan for the future as best we can, and to act, even on uncomfortable issues.

The Art Shabbaton proposal was enthusiastically received. Va'ad members kicked off the fundraising by making donations for shabbaton workshops.

Arthur Slepian presented the Fundraising Committee's proposal for Phase Two of the Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign. Thanks to Deborah Udin for agreeing to lead the campaign and for developing a timeline. We endorsed the Fundraising Committee's proposal as set forth.

Lea Salem gave us an update on the JCRC Security Grant. She was also thrilled to report that people have already volunteered to co-chair High Holiday committees for 5763. We unanimously approved Lea's proposed policy on weekly congregational emails.

All congregants are asked to be alert to individuals who attempt to enter the building as they are walking out the door. While, it is natural to hold the door open for the person trying to enter, please ask them to ring the bell.

Rabbi's Report: Rabbi Angel encouraged us to grow together in learning and stated that the Adult B'nei Mitzvah class, co-directed with Dev Felder Noily, is open to all members as part of adult ed. She described upcoming events in the revived Beit Midrash, such as a tefillin workshop, a prayer choreography seminar and a meditation shabbat. We are all invited to help craft ritual for LGBT weddings. Sixteen members will be going to the Religious Action Committee in Washington, D.C. at the beginning of February; watch for their babysitting fundraisers. The first monthly

*continued on page 13*

## AFIKOMEN

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## President's Column

*continued from page 3*

both the need and the values that motivated this change.

The bricks and mortar on Dolores Street are relatively new to us, but our congregation is approaching a significant milestone. Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2002. The outlines of a year-long celebration are just starting to emerge. We will hold a special Shabbat service in May and a party in November. Many other facets of our celebration are yet to be determined. Because we pride ourselves on being a congregation of activists and volunteers, you are invited to participate in the planning of our celebration of this wonderful moment in our history.

Please let me hear from you - about your vision of fairness for CSZ, and more importantly, about how you would like to participate in strengthening our community and making your vision a reality. Volunteer opportunities abound. I can be reached at 415/821-7746 or [llkatz1@juno.com](mailto:llkatz1@juno.com) (but please try not to call at children's bedtime - between 8 and 9 pm).

## Capital Campaign

*continued from page 3*

you get that phone call, remember the leap of faith that it took to build our home. It was a faith that we too, when the time came, would respond with unprecedented generosity. Let us honor that faith, and continue the work of building our congregation and our home. Let us make this campaign a great success!

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## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)  
Programming office, 415/575-4961  
Education office, 415/575-4962  
[office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org) (email)  
<http://www.shaarzahav.org> (web)

### CSZ Staff:

**Rabbi, Camille Shira Angel** (x 301)  
- [rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org](mailto:rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org)  
**Administrator, Lea Salem** (x 308)  
- [lsalem@shaarzahav.org](mailto:lsalem@shaarzahav.org)  
**Program Director, Dahlia Gross** (x 305)  
- [cszdahlia@yahoo.com](mailto:cszdahlia@yahoo.com)  
**Director of Children's and Family Education**  
**Sue Bojdak** (x 302)  
- [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org)  
**Kadimah Head Teacher,**  
- Phyllis Mintzer  
**Administrative Assistant,**  
**Sean Holcombe** (x 304)  
- [sholcombe@shaarzahav.org](mailto:sholcombe@shaarzahav.org)  
**Family Education Specialist,**  
**Jeni Markowitz**  
- [familyeducator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:familyeducator@shaarzahav.org)  
**Rabbi's Assistant,**  
**Gabby Volodarsky** (x 310)  
- [gabbyv@shaarzahav.org](mailto:gabbyv@shaarzahav.org)

### Officers:

**President, Lisa Katz**  
(415/821-7746),  
- [llkatz1@juno.org](mailto:llkatz1@juno.org) or  
- [president@shaarzahav.org](mailto:president@shaarzahav.org)  
**Vice President, Arthur Slepian**  
**Vice President, Jeffrey Sherman**  
**Treasurer, James Carlson**  
**Recorder, Ray Bernstein**

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)  
Ben Bank  
Howard Herman  
Nancy Kates  
Rose Katz  
Laura Lowe  
Ron Miguel  
Drew Parker-Rose  
Howard Steiermann  
Ami Zusman

Members wishing to contact any  
Va'ad member or committee chair  
are invited to obtain her or his  
number from the synagogue office.

### Committee Chairs:

**Adult Education, Ron Edelman**  
and **Prudence Carter**  
**Archives, open**  
**Baby Havurah, open**  
**Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander**  
**Bikkur Cholim, Nicole Bloom**  
**Book Group, Mark Mackler**  
**Building and Grounds, Beth Sousa**  
**Bylaws, Richard Inlander**  
**Children's Education Board, Ruthy Talansky**  
**Cemetery, Richard Inlander**  
**Dor Rishon Brotherhood, open**  
**Dues, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers,**  
**Brian Jersky, Laura Lowe**  
**East Bay Havurah, Ida Kuluk**  
and **Larry Wexler**  
**Endowment Fund, Diana Buchbinder**  
**Finance, James Carlson**  
**Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot**  
**Fundraising, Arthur Slepian**  
**Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin**  
**Israel Committee, Ron Lezell**  
and **Michal Goralsky**  
**Kesher/Connection, Marianne Balin and**  
**Geri Kahn**  
**Leadership Development, Paul Cohen**  
**Library, Bernard Schertzer**  
**Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold**  
**Membership Outreach, Tony Harris**  
**Mishigas, Geoff Benjamin, Caryn Aviv,**  
**Larry Kaplun**  
**Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign,**  
**Ellie Cohen**  
**Music, Michael Sarid**  
**Newsletter, Karen Schiller**  
- [kschiller@igc.org](mailto:kschiller@igc.org)  
**Past Presidents Council, David Stein**  
**Personnel, Jeff Sherman**  
**Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafskey**  
and **Marc Wernick**  
**Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold**  
**Ritual, Howard Steiermann**  
**Social Action, AJ Turpen, Craig Persiko,**  
**Susan Lubeck**  
**Singles Havurah, Marc Wernick**  
- [mhwernick@aol.com](mailto:mhwernick@aol.com)  
**Toddler/Pre-school Havurah, Deena Lahn**  
**UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin**  
**UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir**  
**WGCLBJO Liaison, David Gellman**  
**Web and I.T., Drew Parker-Rose**  
**Women's Havurah, open**

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.**



## Why Is This New Member Different From All Others? by Marc Wernick



This month, the JGF chatted with new member Melissa Packer. Melissa is from Schenectady, NY (for those who are geographically challenged, think three hours north of the City, near the state capital, Albany). She went to the Hebrew Academy from first through eighth grades.

"My parents were the only Jewish kids their age in their hometown. They thought it was important for me to be with other Jews," Melissa explained. Her parents are more culturally Jewish than religiously observant. "I started the tradition of observing Shabbat in our house," she proudly points out.

In college, however, Melissa questioned Judaism and the existence of God. "While growing up, I had this notion that God was an old man with a beard. And then I thought: 'Wait! Maybe there is not a God'," said Melissa, as she explained how she wrestled with her identity as a feminist and as a Jew. "Judaism felt sexist and homophobic. I was raised to believe that I should marry a rich Jewish man and he would take care of me. Something felt wrong and uncomfortable," Melissa reflected.

Melissa felt that religion was a safety blanket constructed by society. Yet, she realized that as she strayed so far away from Judaism she began to feel uncomfortable. When Melissa moved to San Francisco, she started exploring Judaism again. "I feel comfortable meeting people in a Jewish environment. I feel a basic sense of connectedness. So I started exploring synagogues and Jewish groups in the Bay Area."

But she still had to reconcile her feeling about feminism, sexuality and Judaism. After exploring the myriad of Jewish spiritual and community options in the Bay Area, Melissa attended Sha'ar Zahav and thought, "Wow, this is the place I need to be. The

wording and language of the CSZ siddur really spoke to me. I did not know that this progressive, liberal niche of Judaism existed," explained Melissa. She has also taken classes at the Jewish Community Center and is part of the GLBT speakers bureau at Jewish Family and Children Services along with her "second grandparents," landlords and fellow congregants Ron and Ruth Miguel.

Melissa has also found her niche as a Jewish educator both at Brandeis Hillel Day School in San Francisco and at CSZ. "Brandeis Hillel, the parents, the other teachers and Chaim Heller, the head of the school have been very supportive of fostering and embracing differences. I felt it was important to be out as a lesbian so that kids see that there are role models who are young and cool and are also gay," explains Melissa. "I got hooked on Kadimah at CSZ when we had a staff meeting with Ali Cannon to explore how to incorporate transgender issues into the curriculum.

At CSZ, when we talk about Jewish heroes, homosexuality is a given."

The *Forward* asked Melissa the following four questions to learn more about exploring one's identity and accepting differences.

*Q: What is your favorite Jewish holiday?*

"I love Purim. I love to dress up! Growing up, I did not really celebrate Halloween. I always knew that I was different. I had been out as a Jew, but not out as a lesbian. Purim is really a story about hidden identities."

*Q: What was it like coming out as a lesbian and sharing that hidden identity?*

Melissa explains, "It was very different from coming out as a Jew. I never experienced any anti-Semitism. But in Schenectady, the word 'gay' was only used as a put down. I am proud to be Jewish. And I am now experiencing that pride as a lesbian. I'll go out for dinner with other teachers and talk freely about being gay. It is like other identities. Some people will be uncomfortable with it, others will want to learn more. I hope that by my educating others about the queer community, they will not be so hateful."

*Q: What do you think other young GLBT's are looking for at CSZ?*

"With the 20-something group, I think there is interest in Judaism, but we are over-scheduled and overwhelmed. I was looking for a place where I could meet other Jews. And a place where I could be comfortable and be accepted as someone who is different from the 'white middle-class male' norm."

*continued on page 12*

### Feb. Anniversaries

- 16 Barbara Cymrot and Dafna Wu
- 14 Joan Lefkowitz and Stacey Shuster  
Howard Rubin and Gene Nakajima
- 17 William Denebeim and Mark Vogel
- 18 Jim Acerra and Tony Enriquez

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-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

## AIDS Fund

**Paul Glackman.**

## Bikkur Cholim Fund

**Sam Thal**  
-in honor of Allan Berenstein.

**Ami Zusman**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.

**Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs**  
-in memory of David Fox.

## Chesir-Stein Music Fund

**Michael Sarid**  
-in honor of the members of Gay Gezunt.

**Gary Rink**  
-in honor of Deborah Udin and Michael Sarid.

## Children's Education Fund

**Manny Fishman and Leslie Kane**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.  
-in memory of Thomas Gianinni.

**Holiber Warsaw Family**  
-in honor of Jacob's first full tzedakah box.

**Ed Anisman and Claire Sherman**  
-in appreciation of the Bellm-Kahn Family.

**Alan Gordon**  
-in honor of Leslie Kane's birthday.

**Blachman-Gentile Family**  
-in memory of Berek Blachman.

**Stephen Marshall**  
-in honor of Paul Cohen.

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**Hilda and Marvin Bernstein**  
-in memory of David Rothenberg.

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-in memory of Samuel Epstein.  
-in memory of the victims of September 11.

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Ellen Albin.

**Frances Sturtevant**  
-in memory of Frank Jimenez.

**Jay Davidson**  
-in honor of Rabbi Angel and her leadership.

**Colette Patt**  
-in memory of Alfred Ephraim Shavell.

**Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.

**Mike Rankin**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.

**Marc Wernick**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.

**Helen Barr**  
-in honor of Ma'ayan and Adina Barr-Epstein.

**Tom Holt**  
-in honor of Betty and Steve Elman on the occasion of Betty's 90th birthday.

**Betty and Bernard Miller**  
-in memory of Jeffrey Miller.

## General Fund

**Eve Meyer**  
-in memory of Hans and Marion Meyer.

**Mike Zimmerman**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.

**Bob and Riva Fredrick**  
-in memory of Isa Leah Cymrot-Wu.

**Mike Abramson**  
-in memory of Minnie Kronick and Benjamin Abramson.

**David Elson.**

**Eileen Dunn.**

**Susan Tubbesing**  
-in memory of Fay Mutchnick.

**Rabbi Helen Cohn and Dennis Dawson**  
-in honor of Richard Hazel.

**Diane and Gary Schneiderman**  
-in honor of Beth and Geoff Jaeger-Skigen.

**Laura Lowe**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Dennis and Davida Skigen.**

**Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines**  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.

**Michael Sarid**  
-in appreciation of Judy Schwartz's many years of service to Jewish Family and Children's Services, and her transition to a new job.

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of A.J. Berenstein.

**Trudi Chamoff Hauptman**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.  
-in honor of Cantor Wayne Siet of Temple Sha'ar Emeth.

**Randy Weiss**  
-in honor of Susan Weiss and Craig Shear.

**Avraham Giannini**  
-in memory of Peggy Hart, Sally Golding and Lou Fishman.  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in honor of Bernard Schertzer.

**Sara Haber**  
-in memory of Celia Haber.

**Steve Elman and Tom Holt**  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.  
-in honor of Judy Schwartz on her new position at Fremont Family Resource Center.  
-in honor of Carolyn Pines for having completed the first half of her teaching credential program.

**Judy and Jordan Bloom**  
-in honor of Nicole Bloom.

**Lisa Katz**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.  
-in memory of Milton Frantz.  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in honor of the birth of Serena Iris Stein Bruno.

**James Carlson**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.  
-in honor of Phyllis Mintzer.  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.

**Richard and Miriam Zimmerman**  
-in memory of Helen Zimmerman.

**Anne Lerner**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**Neil Hart**  
-in memory of Tim Elliot.  
-in memory of Sally Golding.  
-in memory of Lou Fishman.

**Irene Ogus**  
-in honor of Marc Lipschutz.  
-in honor of Prudence Carter and Marianne Balin.

**Ora Prochovnick and Rena Frantz**  
-in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.

**George Frankel**  
-in memory of Pearl Kasden.

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Sarah Chamoff.

## New Member

*continued from page 11*

*Q: You mentioned San Francisco is the place that you needed to be. Now that you have been in the city for two years, what do you find most fascinating about the city?*

"There is an enormous list: the open-mindedness, the progressiveness; there is a slower pace to things, the diversity and the acceptance of it. And I just love my neighborhood (the Richmond). There is tofu at the convenience store and three yoga places down the block," Melissa says, just exuding a true enthusiasm for our city.

Please join me in welcoming Melissa Packer, as well as others who are exploring their identities, to our community.

## Open Hand

*continued from page 8*

This year we suited up in our official Project Open Hand garb (paper hats, rubber gloves, aprons and a smile) as we prepared, packaged and delivered approximately 2000 meals for Project Open Hand's clients: people living with HIV disease and other life-threatening illnesses.

We want to thank all of you who volunteered your time during the holidays to help with this annual event. It is wonderful that each year we can count on you to participate in this mitzvah. We appreciate each and every one of you who answered our call for help. A special thanks to Sarita Groisser, Susan Lubeck and Laura Lowe for working so hard to make this happen.



## Contributions

### *Contributions in memory of Tatia and Zora Allie May French*

Ami Zusman.  
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Allan Berenstein.  
Eli Weinstein.  
Avraham Giannini.  
Sharyn Saslafsky.  
Diane and Ed Bernbaum.

*Special thanks to those who have  
helped to underwrite this year's Music  
in the Mishkan Concert Series:*

James Carlson.  
Gerald Rosenstein.  
Philip Charney.  
Larry and Mary Flyche-Bisbee.  
Batya Kalis.  
Ron and Ruth Miguel.

### *Harvey Milk Social Action Fund*

**Blachman-Gentile Family**  
-in memory of Berek Blachman.

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Agnes Berenstein  
Schwartz.

**Lea Salem and Lisa Ochs**  
-in memory of Fannie Kushnir.

### *High Holiday Contributions*

**Jason Honig.**

### *Inclusive Liturgy Fund*

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Royal Kalis.

### *Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign*

**Robert Stern**  
-in memory of Ludwig Stern.

**Patricia Bigglestone**  
-in memory of Clint Bigglestone.

**Roy Simon.**

**Gail Ludwig and Clarissa Kripke**  
-in appreciation of the CSZ  
community.

**Gary Winter**  
-in memory of Min Raven Winter.

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Phillip Kalis.

**The Bernholz Fleisher Family**

### *Torah Fund*

**Mike Rankin**  
-in memory of Thomas Gianinni.

### *Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund*

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Thomas Giannini.  
-in memory Fannie Kushnir.  
-in memory of Less Nohl.

**Eve Meyer**  
-in memory of Ron Greene and  
Renato deLeon.

**Betty Wexler**  
-in honor of Rabbi Angel's service  
at the unveiling of the stone for  
her father.

**Manny Fishman and Leslie  
Kane**  
-in honor of Manny's joining the  
Rabbi Liaison Committee.

**Michael Sarid**  
-in memory of Ed Vivero and  
Sam Jones.

**Michael Kay.**

**Edward Pollock**  
-in honor of Jeffrey Davidson.

**Gary Winter**  
-in honor of Harry Winter.

**Allan Berenstein.**

**Janis Medina**  
-in appreciation of Rabbi Angel.

**George and Phyllis Mintzer**  
-in appreciation of Rabbi Angel.  
-in memory of Tatia and Zora  
Allie May French.  
-in memory of Charles Lourie.

**Mark Gershman**  
-in appreciation of Rabbi Angel.

**Claire Rappoport**  
-in memory of Bella Rappoport.  
-in memory of E. Herbert  
Schepps.  
-in memory of Fela Holzman.

## Dec Va'ad Minutes

*continued from page 9*

Israeli-Palestinian conflict discussion was well-attended.

We heard enthusiastic reports about the UAHC Biennial. Rabbi Angel noted that the larger Jewish world is not where we are in terms of being out, loud and proud. Tapes from the Biennial are available; take advantage of our UAHC dues! Daniel Chesir is slated to be the next Regional President and will serve on the National Board as well. Mike Rankin is on the UAHC's Executive Board.

Rabbi Angel added that she would like to see us enhance our music.

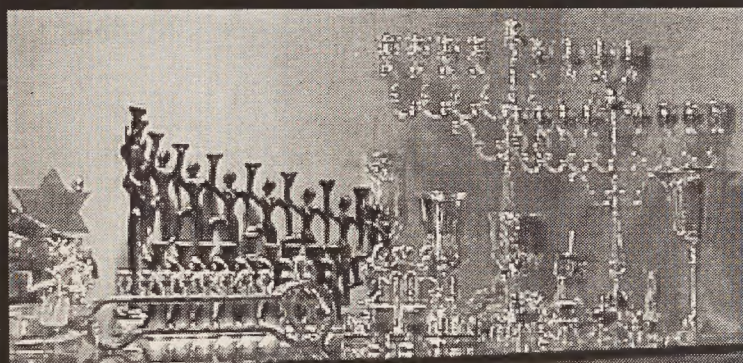
Howard Herman delivered the Educator's report. An evaluation of East Bay Kadimah is beginning.

Ami Zusman delivered the Membership Committee report. We welcomed four new member households plus one returning member. Two members have resigned, for a total of 408 member households.

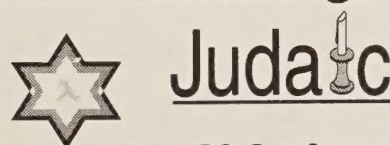
### Members' Yahrzeits

1	Steven Richter	14	Barbara Rosenblum
2	Stephen Walters	15	Alan Ellis
4	John Attridge	17	Jason Gaber
6	Ronald Wilmot	22	Leland Vogel
	Allen Harris	28	Paul Nemrow

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## February

- 1 Joan Goldman  
Alisa Weiner
- 3 Yishai Begley  
Paula Fleisher  
Jacob Robinson
- 5 Patricia Byers  
Steve Weitz  
Ami Zusman
- 6 Zeven Diller  
Andy Fyne  
Parker Windesheim-Zigas
- 7 Oscar Klausner  
Ida Kuluk
- 9 Mark Freeman  
Amy Gentile
- 10 Elliot Barenbaum  
Carol Cantwell  
Ruth Miguel  
Elias Ross-Trupin  
Samuel Tucker
- 11 Emma Abinanti-Sena  
Marion Williamson
- 12 Itai Bojdak-Yates  
Joan Lefkowitz  
David Steinberg
- 13 Leva Choden  
Avi Goldberg  
Dafna Wu
- 14 Lisa DiGirolamo  
Sara Feinstein Shor  
Avraham Giannini  
Irene Ogus  
Beth Ross  
Susan Unger
- 15 Bess-Carolina Dolmo
- 16 Chuck Cohen
- 18 Lauren Augusta  
Nancy Muller
- 19 Steven Mazer
- 20 James Edlin  
Hilary Zaid
- 21 Amy Scharf  
Andrew Schwartz
- 22 Susan Tubbesing
- 25 Alex Ingersoll  
Nancy Silverrod
- 26 Ethan Frazin
- 27 Nancy Brunn  
Benjamin Rainero-de Haan  
Jacob Rosenbaum
- 28 Julie Dorf  
Steve Gaynes  
Danny Kodmur

## Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg and/or flowers in recent weeks:

- 12/21 Oneg by **Ben Bank and Brian Jersky** in honor of their 11th anniversary.
- 12/21 Flowers by **Rachel Maclachlan and Nancy Silverrod** in memory of Elijah Silverrod Maclachlan.
- 12/28 Oneg by **Richard Weiner** in memory of his mother, Mimi Nobel Weiner.
- 1/04 Oneg and flowers by the **Bellm-Kahn Family** in honor of Dan Bellm's becoming bar mitzvah.
- 1/12 Oneg by **Bernstein-Desmond Family** in honor of Malik Bernstein's naming ceremony.
- 1/25 Oneg by **Jerry Rosenstein** in memory of his parents and brothers.

## Classifieds

### HEBREW/TORAH TROPE INSTRUCTION:

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### MENDOCINO GETAWAY:

10% to CSZ. 1BR with ocean view, wood stove, full kitchen, 2 full beds. \$90 + 10% tax/night, \$540/week. Jane 707/937-2648.

### GOT SUN?

Palm Springs vacation rental. 3 bdr home, sleeps 6. Pool w/privacy. Close to downtown. No smoking, no pets, no kids. Available by the day, week or month. Online video tour. CSZ member discount. Contact: [sfojames@pacbell.net](mailto:sfojames@pacbell.net).

## Naches

To **Jeremy Saz** on receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Golden Gate University.

To **Malik Bernstein and his family** on the celebration of his naming.

To **James Carlson, Marc Wernick, Mark Gershman, Ed Blaik and Howard Steiermann** on completing the Marathon in Honolulu to raise money for AIDS research. Way to go guys!

To **Dan Bellm**, on becoming bar mitzvah. Mazel Tov!

To **Judy Schwartz**, on completing 15 years as Director of the Marin Office of JFCS and for her new position as Administrator of the Fremont Family Resource Center.

To **Mike Rankin** on his appointment as the vice-chair of the UAHCCAR Commission on Religious Living

To **Deborah Agre and big brother Eli** on the birth of **Ezra Kurt Baum**.

To **Kevin Stein, Helen Bruno and brother Cohen** on the birth of **Serena Iris**.

To **Wanderson Carlos** on obtaining his grant for asylum in the US.

## Condolences

**The Hauptman Family** on the death of Trudi's mother, Sarah Chamoff.

**George and Phyllis Mintzer** on the death of their granddaughter, Tatia French and her baby, Zorah Allie May French.

**Marc Wernick** on the death of his great-aunt, Bertha Ledewitz-Garb.

**Ali Cannon**, on the death of his grandmother, Alice Stone.

**Susan Lubeck**, on the death of her great-uncle, Leonard Meisel.

**Sue Bojdak**, on the death of her friend, Paula Johnston.

# DON'T FORGET!

**PLEASE DROP  
TOILETRY ITEMS FOR  
THOSE IN NEED INTO  
THE BIG RED BIN**